



**2016 CA RESIDENTIAL  
CODE R602.3, TABLE  
R602.3(1) & 602.3(5)**

TABLE R602.3(5)  
SIZE, HEIGHT AND SPACING OF WOOD STUDS<sup>a</sup>

STUD SIZE (inches)	BEARING WALLS					NONBEARING WALLS	
	Laterally unsupported stud height <sup>a</sup> (feet)	Maximum spacing when supporting a roof-ceiling assembly or a habitable attic assembly, only (inches)	Maximum spacing when supporting one floor, plus a roof- ceiling assembly or a habitable attic assembly (inches)	Maximum spacing when supporting two floors, plus a roof- ceiling assembly or a habitable attic assembly (inches)	Maximum spacing when supporting one floor height <sup>a</sup> (inches)	Laterally unsupported stud height <sup>a</sup> (feet)	Maximum spacing (inches)
2 x 3 <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	10	16
2 x 4	10	24 <sup>c</sup>	16 <sup>c</sup>	—	24	14	24
3 x 4	10	24	24	16	24	14	24
2 x 5	10	24	24	—	24	16	24
2 x 6	10	24	24	16	24	20	24

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- Listed heights are distances between points of lateral support placed perpendicular to the plane of the wall. Bearing walls shall be sheathed on not less than one side or bridging shall be installed not greater than 4 feet apart measured vertically from either end of the stud. Increases in unsupported height are permitted where in compliance with Exception 2 of Section R602.3.1 or designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice.
- Shall not be used in exterior walls.
- A habitable attic assembly supported by 2 x 4 studs is limited to a roof span of 32 feet. Where the roof span exceeds 32 feet, the wall studs shall be increased to 2 x 6 or the studs shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice.

